

COUNCIL BRIEFS

March 10, 2017

America is My Home: Reflections of a Refugee and Two Immigrants:

West Hartford's second annual One Book, One Town initiative will spotlight three extraordinary people on Saturday, March 11, at its panel discussion, "America is My Home: Reflections of a Refugee and Two Immigrants." The free event will be held from 2:00PM at the Faxon Branch Library, 1073 New Britain Avenue.

Come hear Lhakpa Sherpa, Marc-Yves Regis and Aiti Rai retell their powerful stories of starting a new life in America.

The panel's experiences tie in with this year's selected book *Of Beetles and Angels*, a true story of a young boy's journey from civil war in east Africa to a refugee camp to the U.S.

New fee schedule simplifies yard waste

permits: West Hartford's annual Yard Waste and Recycling Center permits are now available for purchase at 25 Brixton Street (the former incinerator building) operated by Supreme Forest Products.

This year a new fee schedule was adopted to simplify and streamline the permit processing. A "Club Fee" schedule allows all West Hartford residents to use the site and cuts down the type of permits issued from 14 to 4. The fees are:

All vehicles except trucks and full size vans without trailers will be charged \$10.00 per year (\$15.00 with trailer). Trucks and full size vans will be charged \$25.00 per year (\$35.00 with trailer). Day passes will no longer be available. The fee charged is for the administration of the facility. [Click here for more information.](#)

Local Elderly Property Tax Freeze program:

Imagine your tax bill frozen in time; that's what the Local Elderly Property Tax Freeze program does for eligible elderly homeowners. The tax bill for the 2016 Grand List will remain the same next year, five years from now, and 20 years from now. To be eligible for this program, West Hartford residents must be at

least 70 years of age as of December 31, 2016, have a maximum annual income of \$35,200 for a single individual and \$42,900 for a married couple, and must have owned and occupied their property in West Hartford as of Oct. 1, 2016.

To learn more and to [obtain an application](#), please call the Assessment Office at 561-7414. The deadline to apply is May 15.

Budget Public Hearings: The Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Proposed Town Budget, which includes the town services budget, the capital financing budget and the education budget, was submitted to the Town Council on March 8, 2017. The proposed mill rate is 42.76. The public has an opportunity to voice their opinions at two upcoming public hearings: Monday, March 27 at 6:00 PM and Wednesday, April 5 at 2:00 PM in Room 314, Town Hall. [Click here for a list of all budget information meetings.](#)

Christopher Tyler named Police Officer of the Year: On March 8th, WHPD announced Officer Christopher Tyler as the 2017 recipient of the Exchange Club's Police Officer of the Year award. Officer Tyler joined WHPD on August 15, 2010. He is a graduate from Stoney Brook College with a degree in Business Management.

Officer Tyler is highly decorated officer having received several Unit Citations, Departmental Citations and Merit Awards. He is a member of the SWAT Team, the Community Interaction Team and Commendations Committee. He is a field training officer.

The Exchange Club will present Officer Tyler with his award at the American Legion Hall on Wednesday, April 5. Congratulations!

Ronald F. Van Winkle
Town Manager